



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-3307, **Agenda Item #:** 20.

10/21/2021

Posting Language

Consider an ordinance amending Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 20210811-002 (City of Austin Fee and Fine Schedule) to reinstate the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Parkland Dedication fees; authorizing the City Manager to conduct a benchmark study of the parkland dedication fees charged by peer Texas cities, a review of other cities' processes related to parkland dedication fees, and an affordability impact study of the City's parkland dedication fees; further authorizing the City Manager to provide opportunities for internal and external stakeholder engagement and feedback; and further authorizing the City Manager to provide a report to Council regarding the results of the studies and the engagement process and recommendations regarding the Parkland Dedication fees and ordinance for Council consideration by the end of April 2022.

Lead Department

Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note

The revenue impact as a result of this amendment is unknown at this time. The actual revenue realized is dependent on the site plan and subdivision applications submitted, the quantity of new residential and hotel units added, and whether applicants dedicate or pay fees. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

December 11, 2014 - Council approved Resolution No. 20141211-219, which initiated amendments to City Code Chapter 25-1.

January 28, 2016 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20160128-086 was approved on a 10-1 vote with Council Member Zimmerman voting nay.

August 12, 2021 - Council approved an ordinance authorizing fees, fines, and other charges to be set or charged by the City for Fiscal Year 2021-2022, beginning on October 1, 2021, and ending on September 30, 2022.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Following the adoption of Resolution No. 20141211-219, City Council initiated amendments to update the City of Austin's parkland dedication to better achieve the goals of Imagine Austin and better align the City's parkland requirements with those of peer cities. City Council approved a substantially revised Parkland Dedication Ordinance in 2016 (Ordinance No. 20160128-086).

The 2016 Ordinance included formulas for calculating and updating parkland dedication fees (PLD) annually which remains applicable today. The formulas were generated as a result of comprehensive stakeholder engagement.

The fee calculations for fee in-lieu of land are dictated by the average of the previous five years of land acquisition costs. Utilizing the formula outlined in City Code 25-1-605 and City Code 25-1-606 the Parks and Recreation Department (Department) collected approximately \$18 million in combined PLD fees in Fiscal Year 2020-2021. The Department anticipated it would collect approximately \$30 million in Fiscal Year 2021-2022 combined PLD fees for land acquisitions and development fees.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability, Health and Environment, Culture and Lifelong Learning, Government that Works for All.